

----- Original message -----

From: Amanda Bjerke <[ajbjerke@gmail.com](mailto:ajbjerke@gmail.com)>

Date: 4/30/20 10:20 PM (GMT-06:00)

To: county development <[countydevelopment@brookingscountysd.gov](mailto:countydevelopment@brookingscountysd.gov)>

Subject: Fwd: Response to Conditional Use Permit #'s 2020cu009 and 2020cu010

FILED MAY 01 2020

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Chad Bjerke** <[cbjerkbrw@gmail.com](mailto:cbjerkbrw@gmail.com)>

Date: Thu, Apr 30, 2020, 10:18 PM

Subject: Fwd: Response to Conditional Use Permit #'s 2020cu009 and 2020cu010

To: Mandy <[ajbjerke@gmail.com](mailto:ajbjerke@gmail.com)>

To the members of the Planning and Zoning Commission and others that it may concern,

The following reasons I am going to list are just a few of the concerns I have and why I feel these permits should not be issued

\* The "Mining Plan" that Mr. Sterzinger submitted has several areas of very broad description that could be deciphered many different ways. In example, is the haul route access road going to always be 204th St, or will that change as he mines different areas? He does not specify what type of fuel containment he is going to use, nor does he have a plan in place incase of a fuel spill or leak. Why is he listing so much land if the only thing he showed in his hand drawn map(with nothing to scale) is two small areas, and if those are the only places that they plan on mining, why will it take up to 30 years? Especially when both of those specified spots have been mined before. His earth type dam to protect the creek does not say how tall or wide it will be. Is he going to seed it or put fabric on it? A large rain or the creek flooding over its bank will surely destroy any type of earthen dam. He has no plan in place for the county roads- is the county ok with the extra traffic on their roads, and what is his plan when load limits are in place? Or when the road starts deteriorating because of the extra use, who is going to pay to have it fixed. He states that mining will be done above the water table at this point- when/if that plan changes does he need to resubmit a new application/permits or if he is granted one now does it just give him the power to mine however and wherever he sees fit?

\*The safety of the public is another aspect that needs to be addressed. The two approaches that enter the "mine" areas are in spots that are extremely dangerous. Anyone coming from the east will have very little time to stop when there is a fully loaded truck exiting the north mine area.

\*The extra noise and dust created in the mine will also be a major factor. Our house is directly in line with the prevailing winds that would push dust and dirt our way. The noise from them digging "test" holes this winter could be heard in our yard and even when inside our house.

\*The area for this proposed mine is in a Grassland Easement with the US Department of the Interior and US Fish and Wildlife. The land owner has been paid \$293,150 for those easements. They were purchased with the intent to "acquire lands and waters or interest therein for the development, advancement, management, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife". And to protect the habitat quality of the lands described in the easement. It also states that "such lands shall be maintained to provide cover, especially nesting cover, and food for a varied array of aquatic, terrestrial, and avian wildlife, particularly waterfowl and threatened and endangered species". Allowing them to mine these very areas would void any and all purposes of such easements.

\*Owning land next to the proposed mine site would decrease our property value. We have worked very hard turning our 40 acres into our own little paradise. A gravel mine right next door was not exactly what we had in mind when we moved to this neighborhood. I can't think of one person who would want such a drastic change in their surroundings and way of life.

\*The creek that runs through this property is a waterway that also meanders across 3 other landowners property. It then ends up in Lake Oakwood. Any type of contamination of this creek would be detrimental to anyone/anything down stream.

With these above reasons that I have stated in conjunction with such a vague and open ended "mining plan", I would strongly urge the Planning and Zoning Commission to turn down Conditional Use Permit #'s 2020cu009 and 2020cu010.

Thank you for your time and understanding,

Chad Bjerke

20416 460th Ave

Bruce SD 57220